



THE LADDER, 1956-1972

The first nationally distributed lesbian periodical in the U.S. The Ladder served as the official publication of the Daughters of Bilitis (DOB). DOB formed in 1955 in San Francisco, CA, becoming the first lesbian rights organization in the United States. Local chapters formed all over the U.S., which produced their own newsletters and publications.

TRANSVESTIA + TURNABOUT MAGAZINE



Transvestia began publication in 1960, making it the first “transvestite” magazine. However, *Transvestia* was meant only for “heterosexual transvestites.” *Turnabout: A Magazine of Transvestism* began publication in 1965, but was much more inclusive to the vast spectrum of gender identities and sexual orientations. **Read copies online at the Digital Transgender Archive.**



THE MATTACHINE REVIEW, 1955-1967

The official publication of the Mattachine Society, one of the earliest gay rights organizations in the United States. The Mattachine Society was formed in 1950 in Los Angeles, California. Shortly after, a number of other chapters formed, many of them producing their own publications. Visit the Library of Congress to read copies of *The Mattachine Review* (HQ.75.M37)

DRAG MAGAZINE, 1970-1983



The official publication of the Queens Liberation Front (QLF). The QLF was founded on October 31, 1969, to organize on behalf of transvestites, transsexuals, cross-dressers, and drag queens. This publication includes great primary sources related to drag queen activists before and after Stonewall.



ONE MAGAZINE, 1953-1967,

First “Pro-Gay” Periodical in the United States to be nationally distributed. The U.S. Post Office initially refused to deliver and after four years of litigation, the Supreme Court declares in 1958 *ONE Magazine* is not obscene per se.

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VICE VERSA, 1947-1948, Los Angeles, CA

First Lesbian Magazine (zine), Published anonymously by Lisa Ben, a pen name which is an anagram for lesbian. Ben produced just 6 copies at a time on her typewriter using copy paper.
Read every issue of Vice Versa online: queeruschertage.com/viceversa.html

LGBTQ+ Self-Publishing
A Mini-History Zine

Barbara Gittings mimeographs *The Ladder*